

Focus on 5th



News and Events in the 5th Grade

April 4, 2011

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Important Dates

Apr 6	Spelling Bee Practice
Apr 11-12	Spelling Bee Preliminary Round
Apr 12	Social Studies Research Sheet Due
Apr 15	Civil War Test
Apr 19	Social Studies Poster Due
Apr 21	Institute Day - No School
Apr 22	No School
Apr 26	Spelling Bee Final Round
Apr 27	Final Novel Project Due

Dear Families,

Welcome back! We hope you all had an enjoyable Spring Break filled with family time and maybe a little relaxation as well!

Student Council is sponsoring a spring food drive during the month of April. There will be collection boxes in each classroom. Your donations will help stock the Oak Park and River Forest Food Pantry. Please give generously.

SPECIALS

Physical Education

We will be having our **7th Annual Holmes Parents Vs. Holmes Staff fundraiser basketball game**. The game will take place on **March 19, 2011** at Gwendolyn Brooks Middle School. It will start at 7pm. Admissions is \$5 for adults, \$2 for children and \$10 for a family of 3 or more.

Spanish

Students acted out their latest story and recorded it. We will be watching their work this week and be having a quiz soon.

Art

Thank you to everyone that attended the district-wide art show at OPRF and the Holmes art show at the Oak Park public library this month. While these shows are coming down this week, you can see the district show online at <http://campus.digication.com/d97art/Welcome>. This link (which is a bit cumbersome) can also be found at the top of the district's website, www.op97.org, as well. All the artwork featured in these shows will be coming home the week after spring break.



Reading/Literature

We will complete our novel studies of *The Breadwinner* and *Under the Blood Red Sun* over the next three weeks. Students submitted proposals for their final novel projects and received my responses to their proposals before break. Students should be working on their projects a little bit each week so that they are not left to do them all at once. Final Novel Projects are due **Friday, April 27th**.

Math

Graded fraction multiplication tests were returned to students today. The majority of students struggled with the concepts of multiplication of mixed numbers and multiplication of fractions by whole numbers. Therefore, we will spend the beginning of the week reviewing these concepts. We will also work on fraction division this week. We will have a quiz on Friday covering multiplication and division of fractions. Next week, we will begin working on our algebra unit.

Science

On Monday, the students will spend time reviewing for the quiz that is on Wednesday. The quiz will cover the nervous and circulatory system. Students should use handouts from class to study from. If students need new handouts, they may come into study hall on Monday or Tuesday to recopy them. We will also begin to discuss the digestive system this week.

Social Studies

This week we will assign topics for the Civil War research project. I will assign each student a person, battle, event, or invention and we will spend class time in the computer lab on Tuesday for research. Students will then create a poster from a template to display the information and images collected. The research sheet will be due **Tuesday, April 12**. The poster will be due **Tuesday, April 19**. Students will present their final product to the class beginning **April 19**. Some class time will be used for this project, but some students may need to complete work at home. Please check in with your child to be sure s/he is making progress. A test on the Civil War unit will be given on **Friday, April 15**.

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<http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

<http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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